

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00833 180014Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /070 W
-----082374 180018Z /65

P 172349Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6364
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL
ALL OTHER CANADIAN POSTS POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 00833

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CA
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL
MEETING

1. PRESS: COMMENT ON MEETING WAS MIXED, BUT ON BALANCE
MILDLY POSITIVE. GEOFFREY STEVENS (GLOBE AND MAIL)
SAID CONFERENCE WAS NOT AS FUTILE AS LEVESQUE MADE
IT OUT TO BE, BUT NOT AS PRODUCTIVE AS SOME OF THE
OTHER PREMIERS SUGGESTED. EVEN THOUGH IT COULD NOT
BE SAID THAT ANYTHING RELATED TO CANADA'S GRAVE
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS HAD BEEN RESOLVED, THERE WERE
SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND ALL PARTICIPANTS CAME AWAY
WITH AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING. "THIS MADE THE CON-
FERENCE WORTHWHILE." NORMAN WEBSTER (GLOBE AND MAIL)
SAID THAT IN TWELVE YEARS HE HAD NOT SEEN A FEDERAL-
PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE WHICH THE PARTICIPANTS HAD
TAKEN MORE SERIOUSLY.

2. POLITICAL OPPOSITION: COMMENT WAS PREDICTABLY CRITI-
CAL. NDP LEADER BROADBENT HAS PRESSED FOR DIRECT JOB
CREATION PROGRAMS AND SAID "ONE MILLION UNEMPLOYED ARE
GOING TO BE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED." JOE CLARK'S
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00833 180014Z

ANNOUNCED PC POLICY OF 2 BILLION TAX REDUCTION WAS
UNDERCUT BY MARKED CONSERVATIVE TONE OF MOST PROVINCIAL
PREMIERS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT GREAT DAMAGE DONE BY
MEETING WAS THAT IT CREATED OPPORTUNITY FOR LEVESQUE
TO WALK AWAY BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS WEEK'S ECONOMIC SUMMIT WAS

CLEARLY ONLY MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL IN DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO COPE WITH CANADA'S ECONOMIC ILLS, BUT IT DID ACCOMPLISH ONE POLITICAL OBJECTIVE WHICH TRUDEAU UNDOUBTEDLY HAD IN MIND IN CONVENING IT, I.E. GAINING THE PROVINCIAL PREMIERS' ACCEPTANCE OF A JOINT PROGRAM --MODEST THOUGH IT IS--TO MOVE THE ECONOMY FORWARD.

4. FOR MONTHS, THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES AND THE NDP HAVE BEEN BERATING THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE CURRENT HIGH RATES OF INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT, AND TRUDEAU HAS CERTAINLY RECOGNIZED THAT THEY WILL SEEK TO EXPLOIT THE ISSUE OF THE ECONOMY IN THE COMING ELECTIONS. NOW, IN RESPONSE TO ATTACKS BY THE OPPOSITION, TRUDEAU CAN CLAIM THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PROVINCIAL PREMIERS, INCLUDING FIVE WHO ARE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES AND ONE (BLAKENEY) WHO IS NDP, ARE COOPERATING TO TURN THE ECONOMY AROUND.

5. THIS DEFENSE WILL NOT DETER JOE CLARK AND ED BROADBENT FROM USING THE POOR STATE OF THE ECONOMY AS AN ISSUE IN THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, BUT IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO PLACE THE MAJOR BLAME ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.
ENDERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, MEETINGS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA00833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780074-1134
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780241/aaaabisg.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 19f0a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3561650
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL MEETING
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/19f0a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014